

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 9 Feb 53

SUBJECT Potassium Transshipment at Wismar Harbor

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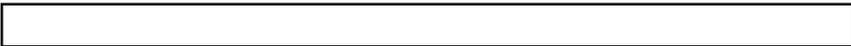
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1



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1. The small potassium wharf in Wismar has been enlarged and improved, making Wismar the most important re-shipment port for potassium salts. Railroad cars are unloaded by an automatic dunnage apparatus. The potassium salts are then moved on a conveyor belt through a closed culvert over a loading bridge directly into the ship's hold. The daily loading output is 4,000 tons. A warehouse with a storage capacity of 20,000 tons provides a reserve which permits uninterrupted unloading even late at night.
2. The port and the sea lane have been dredged and will be further widened and deepened in order that all overseas trade, especially to Red China, can be routed through Wismar. Over two-thirds of the total potassium production in East Germany will be exported, and the largest part will be shipped through Wismar.
3. The buoys and the lighting of the sea lane also has been substantially replaced and improved, so that it is now possible for ocean-going vessels to enter the port safely after dark. The other port basins have been greatly improved. The quay wall and bulwark have been renovated and extended. The berths have been deepened and the free storage space drained. Permanent approaches and roll tracks have been laid out. The railway-net has been expanded and adequate cranes built. Large new warehouses have been erected. The lighting system has been greatly expanded so that work can be carried out anywhere in the harbor area at night. Three silos have been made available for transit and storage.

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